Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (currently amended) A method for inspecting rail equipment, storing information relating to the inspection and automatically generating a repair disposition report comprising:

providing rail equipment having a plurality of parts;

inspecting the rail equipment to determine a damage condition of each of the parts of the rail equipment;

providing a data entry system comprising a plurality of fields;

querying a user of the data entry system for information relating to the damage condition of each of the parts of the rail equipment;

entering information relating to the damage condition of each of the parts of the rail equipment into each of the plurality of fields;

~~generating at least one report showing an overall damage condition of the rail equipment that is calculated from the information input into the data entry system;~~

~~providing a plurality of dispositions for the rail equipment~~ automatically assigning, by the data entry system, one of a plurality of dispositions to the rail equipment based on an overall damage condition of the rail equipment that is calculated by the data entry system from the information input into the data entry system; wherein the plurality of dispositions includes not repairing the rail equipment, repairing the rail equipment using a mobile repair unit and repairing the rail equipment at a repair facility-, wherein the mobile repair unit is a vehicle equipped to provide mechanical services to the rail equipment without requiring the rail equipment to be moved to a repair facility;

generating at least one report showing the overall damage condition of the rail equipment and the disposition automatically assigned by the data entry system to the rail equipment;

~~automatically assigning, via the data entry system, one of the plurality of dispositions to the rail equipment based on the overall damage condition of the rail equipment;~~ and

providing a database interconnected with the data entry system to store information input into the data entry system and generated by the data entry system.

2.   (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the report comprises information relating to an estimated cost of repair of the rail equipment.

3.   (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the data entry system stores information relating to a plurality of types of railcars.

4.   (previously presented) The method of claim 3 wherein the railcars are selected from the group consisting of box cars, flat cars, hopper cars, general purpose tank cars, open top hopper and gondola cars, plastic pellet cars, pressure differential cars and pressure tank cars.

5.   (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the report comprises information related to whether the rail equipment must be repaired or whether the rail equipment is useable in its present state.

6.   (previously presented) The method of claim 5 wherein the report further comprises information related to whether the rail equipment is repairable by a mobile repair unit or whether the rail equipment must be shopped.

7.   (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

printing blank forms relating to the rail equipment from the data entry system.

8.   (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

assigning a damage indicator for each part of the rail equipment; and

inputting the damage indicator for each part of the rail equipment into the data entry system.

9.   (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

adding information into the data entry system relating to the inspector of the rail equipment.

10.   (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the information further comprises the identity of the rail equipment.

11.   (previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

selecting a record of rail equipment from the database;

editing information on the record of the rail equipment; and

saving the information to the database.

12.   (cancelled)

13.   (cancelled)

14.   (cancelled)

15.   (cancelled)

16.   (cancelled)

17.   (cancelled)

18.   (cancelled)

19.   (cancelled)

20.   (cancelled)